

MINUTES

MEETING OF: CITY OF CARLSBAD ARTS COMMISSION
DATE OF MEETING: Thursday, Oct. 2, 2014
PLACE OF MEETING: City of Carlsbad Council Chamber
1200 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad CA

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Tina Schmidt called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners Alter, DeForest, Markovits, Schmidt, Voll and White

Absent: Commissioner Johnson

Staff Present: Heather Pizzuto, Library and Cultural Arts Director; Vincent Kitch, Cultural Arts Manager; Steve Didier, Senior Management Analyst; Colleen Finnegan, Community Coordinator; Cissie Sexton, Administrative Secretary

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

By proper motion (Markovits/Alter) and vote the minutes of the Aug. 7, 2014 regular meeting of the City of Carlsbad Arts Commission were approved as amended.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

Presentation by Group 4 Architecture regarding the capital improvement project for the Cole and Dove Libraries. As part of the renovation the plan includes relocating the Cultural Arts Office to the Dove Library complex. The project is scheduled to go to bid spring of 2015 with Cole Library renovation work completed first, followed by the Dove Library.

- Commissioner Alter asked about changes to the Schulman Auditorium. Changes include plans to increase the height of the stage, upgrading all of the technology within the auditorium and bringing all of the controls into the control room, new lighting for the stage and new seats.
- Commissioner White asked if the budget included 1 percent set aside for art because it is considered a remodel. At the time of original scope of these projects, 1 percent for art was not included in the project scope. Commissioner White pointed out that is different than the Arts Commission's recent work on the public art program guidelines.
- Commissioner Schmidt commented that shade sails drawn in the renderings during the feasibility studies were liked by many people, including the city council. Commissioner Markovits also commented that table umbrellas do not add a way of controlling the environment to make the courtyard more useful for events year-round. Shading for the courtyard is still being evaluated and Group 4 Architecture said they would re-evaluate the possibility of sails vs. canopies/umbrellas.
- The fireplace, as presented in the original feasibility study, is planned to be designed by the contractor. Commissioner Schmidt sees the fireplace as an opportunity to involve an artist in the design.

- Arts Commission would like to have more input on the design, especially in advance of meetings so that the commission has the opportunity for suggestions and comments. (Alter/Schmidt)
- Commissioner Alter commented that the courtyard offers an opportunity to create focal points for the gallery and auditorium as destination points for the arts and enhance the place-making of the complex. The way this happens will be part of the evolutionary process of the design within the existing structure.
- Commissioner Voll mentioned the floor could be used as a way-finding tool.
- Commissioners DeForest and Schmidt said the entrance to the auditorium and ticket area is non-professional. A marquee announcing events in the theater and gallery would be appreciated.
- Commissioner DeForest stated the new facility should be called The Dove Library and Cultural Arts Center and recommended the Arts Commission lobby for a name change.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Commissioner Schmidt attended the new Village/Barrio Plan meetings with the consultants and really liked the process. The consultants listened to ideas without any judgment, taking ideas from the residents before the design process was started.

Commissioner Schmidt met with Heather Pizzuto and Steve Didier about the commission's concerns and questions after the budget presentation in June and left with the impression that the finances are under control.

CULTURAL ARTS MANAGER'S REPORT

August

- Carlsbad Sculpture Garden launched Landsailers with over 100 people attending the opening. Over 2000 people have visited the garden since its reopening in Mid-December.
- 'Songs from the Road' Concert by Susanna and the Troublemakers drew 137 attendees to the Schulman Auditorium.
- TGIF played to 40-50,000 concert goes in 9 weeks of concerts in 4 different venues including record attendance at Alga Norte Community Park. TGIF was rebranded this year expanding programming and implementing food trucks.

September

- "The Original Art-The Fine Art of Children's Book Illustration" opened with nearly 400 people attending the opening reception hosted by the Carlsbad Friends of the Arts.
- The Mayor and City Council held a completion event at Maxton Brown Park to dedicate the coast highway roundabout and the new public artwork "Coastal Helix". Approximately 150 people attended this event.
- A new mural developed in partnership with the Cultural Arts Office and Housing & Neighborhood Services was completed by artist Skye Walker. This was started during the Fiesta del Barrio. The Cultural Arts Office conducted a Family Open Studios On-the-Go during the festival.
- The Cultural Arts Office presented Family Open Studios On-the-Go at ArtSplash where over 400 children and family members participated in hands-on art making activities over two days.

Upcoming events include:

- Foreign Film Fridays starting Oct. 3 at 7 p.m.
- Opera Previews starting Oct. 4 at 10 a.m.
- Fancy Nancy author event and tea party on Oct. 11, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- Family Open Studios in the Sculpture Garden on Oct. 18, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- Classical Concert on Oct. 26 at 2 p.m.

Announcement of the retirement of 25 year Cultural Arts Office employee Colleen Finnegan at year-end 2014.

FRIENDS OF THE ARTS REPORT

No report due to the absence of Commissioner Johnson.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner White asked about the plans for the current location of the Cultural Arts Office and Sculpture Garden on Elmwood Drive. The current plan is to close the Sculpture Garden. There are no current plans for the office.

Commissioners Schmidt and Alter commented on the new website. Commissioner Schmidt views the site as friendlier, Commissioner Alter finds the search function difficult and navigation cumbersome. Commissioner White enjoys the Arts News newsletter and Manager Kitch pointed out that this edition is larger and in full color.

Commissioner Voll pointed out the Cultural Arts Office has been recognized three times in 92009 Magazine and she attended ArtSplash.

Commissioner Markovits attended the roundabout opening and encouraged everyone to try the opera caravan.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Schmidt adjourned the regular meeting of the Arts Commission at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Riggins

Sr. Office Specialist